

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ANNOUNCING RECIPIENTS OF THE INAUGURAL CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION FOR THE THIRD DISTRICT OF TEXAS—PAUL M. SIMEON, JR.

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 2, 2011

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to announce before my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives the names of eleven distinguished military veterans and community servants who call the Third District of Texas home. For their selfless service and dedication to their neighbors and nation, the following individuals have been selected as recipients of the inaugural Congressional Veteran Commendation:

United States Marine Corps Sergeant Paul M. Simeon, Jr. is a veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom. He deployed to Afghanistan with the 1st Combat Engineer Battalion in 2002. During his years as an active duty Marine, Simeon earned a Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation, Certificate of Commendation, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, and Meritorious Mast and Marine Corps Good Conduct Medals.

Upon his exit from the Marine Corps, Simeon became a patrol officer for the New York City Police Department. He put his military training to good use keeping the streets of Brooklyn safe. During his tenure as an officer, Simeon was awarded the Excellent Police Duty Commendation for outstanding service.

In 2010, Simeon moved to Frisco, Texas, where he now resides. With the ultimate goal of becoming a doctor, Simeon has returned to school where he serves as president of the Collin College chapter of Student Veterans of America. He works day in and day out to ease the transition for returning warriors from military service to academic life. In the words of Sergeant Simeon, "If one of us fails, we all fail. We leave no one behind."

Always faithful, Simeon continues to exemplify the Marine Corps Motto by serving his peers.

Therefore, it is my pleasure to name Paul M. Simeon a recipient of the inaugural Congressional Veteran Commendation for the Third District of Texas.

RECOGNIZING MS. JESSIE FRANKLIN WILLIAMS FOR HER SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AND HER COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 2, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable parent

and an outstanding public servant, Ms. Jessie Franklin Williams. Ms. Williams has devoted her entire life to education and service. She was born on January 4, 1944 to Mr. and Mrs. L.A. Franklin in Greenville, Mississippi. She is the eldest of ten children and the widow of the late Mr. Albert Joe Williams. She is also the proud mother of four daughters: Sharon, Kyshea, Albetha and Jessica and grandmother of seven beautiful grandchildren.

Ms. Williams attended Coleman High School in Greenville, Mississippi; Mississippi Valley State University in Itta Bena, Mississippi and Delta State University in Cleveland, Mississippi. She is a student of history and dedicated her 38-year career to teaching the subject of Social Studies in the Shaw, Mississippi School District.

She has trained with the Office of Innovative and School Improvement and completed studies through the File Management for Educators program. Her additional instruction include: The Praxis Series Validation and Standard Setting Professional Assessments for Beginning Teachers, Strategies and Tools for Improving Student Learning and Achievement and Preps Subject Area Training.

She was appointed by former Governor of Mississippi and current Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable Ray Mabus, to serve on the State Health and Human Services Board. Ms. Williams has also served on the Washington County (MS) Election Commission and evaluated high schools for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). She has served as a member of the Greenville Pride Committee and served on the Board for Project Weed and Seed of Greenville, Mississippi. She also sings with the Soulful Temps Gospel Group.

Ms. Williams has lived through major periods in American History. She journeyed with America through times of both segregation and integration, becoming the first African American teacher to integrate the public schools in the Mississippi Delta. She was chosen Star Teacher and Teacher of the Year several times in her School District.

She serves as church announcer and president of the New Mt. Bethel Choir. She has served as President of the Elegant Ebonettes' Social and Civic Club, and worked with the Excellence Groups; which is a group of teachers and students dedicated to improving proficiency in the classroom.

She is passionate about education and has a consecrated love for her students. She has sponsored mock trials, mock elections, oratorical contests, and pageants all with the intent of promoting academic excellence and diversity among her students. Her motto is: "Good habits produce good conduct, long life and prosperity."

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in recognizing Mrs. Jessie Franklin Williams for her dedication and commitment to education and empowering America's next generation.

IN HONOR OF TEAM 4MIL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 2, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Team 4Mil as they continue their mission to inspire, invigorate, and support wounded veterans through rehabilitative cycling programs and competitions.

Team 4Mil is a volunteer, non-profit 501(c)(3) public charity comprised of veterans from all branches of the United States military. This group of athletes has joined together to produce a cycling team which competes annually in Race Across America, RAAM, in order to generate support and promote the Wounded Warrior Project. This cycling competition is among the most strenuous acts of endurance. A three thousand mile course, which stretches from coast to coast, is travelled twenty four hours a day and takes about a week to complete, pushing even the most elite athletes to their limits. For Team 4Mil this act of endurance is a commemoration to those who have so bravely served our country.

By participating in this highly regarded competition, Team 4Mil hopes to raise funds and spread awareness of the Wounded Warrior Project, which aims to ensure that injured veterans returning from service are successfully and fully adjusted back to civilian life. The Wounded Warrior Project enables fellow veterans such as Team 4Mil to support and aid those who have sustained serious injury while serving their country.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me today in honoring Team 4Mil as they continue their journey of extraordinary determination and manifest their duty to those who have bravely served our country.

CONGRATULATING THE CARSONVILLE-PORT SANILAC FOOTBALL TEAM ON WINNING THE INAUGURAL 8-PLAYER MICHIGAN STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 2, 2011

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct privilege to recognize a special achievement recently accomplished by the Carsonville-Port Sanilac (C-PS) Tigers High School Football Team. C-PS capped off a remarkable and extremely memorable season by taking home to Sanilac County the first ever Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) 8-Player State Championship. After the necessary 20 high schools announced they would be fielding teams in 2011, the MHSAA was able to implement an official playoff schedule. This was more than welcomed news to CP-S since they had gone

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